

APPROPRIATION, COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

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LETTER

FROM

THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY,

TRANSMITTING

A COPY OF A COMMUNICATION FROM THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE AND LABOR SUBMITTING AN ESTIMATE OF APPROPRIATION FOR COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY.

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JANUARY 4, 1904.—Referred to the Committee on Appropriations and ordered to be printed.

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TREASURY DEPARTMENT,  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,  
*Washington, December 30, 1903.*

SIR: I have the honor to transmit herewith for the consideration of Congress copy of a communication from the Secretary of Commerce and Labor of the 12th instant, submitting certain increases in the estimates of appropriations for the service of the Coast and Geodetic Survey for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1905, aggregating \$26,300.

Respectfully,

L. M. SHAW, *Secretary.*

The SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR,  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY,  
*Washington, December 21, 1903.*

SIR: I have the honor to forward herewith for transmission to Congress a letter from the Superintendent of the Coast and Geodetic Survey embodying supplemental estimates affecting that Bureau, as well as a statement of the reasons for the proposed changes.

Respectfully,

GEO. B. CORTELYOU,  
*Secretary.*

The SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND LABOR,  
COAST AND GEODETIC SURVEY,  
Washington, December 12, 1903.

SIR: I beg leave to submit the following remarks in regard to a proper increase in the force of the Survey, as suggested by the letter, dated November 17, of the honorable Secretary of the Navy.

In order to push surveys in the Philippines so as to keep pace with the demands of commerce, an estimate for two new vessels for surveying in the Philippines has been submitted, and appears in the printed estimates. If these are authorized their construction will make the steamer *Pathfinder*, now in the Philippines, available for work in Alaska, where she is much needed.

The smallness of the regular appropriation for repairs of vessels makes it necessary to ask that the item for "Repairs and maintenance of vessels" be increased from \$29,600 to \$35,000 in order to insure the efficiency and availability for work of the vessels. Subjected as they are to severe and constant use, it is necessary to keep them in such condition that unseaworthiness shall not be added to the hazardous nature of their duties.

It will add much to the output of this office if the force of draftsmen and engravers be increased. Only about one-fifth of the present force can be used in making new charts, four-fifths of the force being engaged in maintaining the correctness of existing charts and meeting the numerous demands made upon this office. I beg leave to recommend, therefore, an increase of the force of draftsmen and engravers, so that the total force to be provided for in place of those provided for in the estimates submitted last October will be as follows:

*Topographic and hydrographic draftsmen.*—One at \$2,400, one at \$2,200, two at \$2,000, three at \$1,800, three at \$1,600, four at \$1,400, four at \$1,200, three at \$1,000, and two at \$900.

NOTE.—This is a total increase of five over existing appropriations.

*Copperplate engravers.*—Three at \$2,000, three at \$1,800, four at \$1,600, four at \$1,400, four at \$1,200, two at \$1,000, and two at \$900.

NOTE.—This is a total increase of five over existing appropriations.

Some provision has been made for an increase in the field force in the estimates which have already been submitted to Congress. To hasten the work in the various localities to meet the demands made upon this Bureau I beg leave to recommend, however, a further increase of six in the number of assistants at \$1,200 per annum, so that the appropriation shall read: "Sixteen assistants, at \$1,200 each, instead of 10, at \$1,200 each."

The total increases here recommended over those appearing in the estimates amount, therefore, to the following sums:

Increase of item for repairs and maintenance of vessels .....	\$5,400
Increase in engraving force .....	8,100
Increase in drawing force .....	5,600
Increase in field force .....	7,200
Total .....	26,300

Respectfully,

O. H. TITTMANN,  
*Superintendent.*

The SECRETARY OF COMMERCE AND LABOR.